

# Improper Payments

September 6, 2019

# Payments After Death

## Section 5(g)(1) of the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012*

(g) PLAN TO CURB FEDERAL IMPROPER PAYMENTS TO DECEASED INDIVIDUALS BY IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND USE BY FEDERAL AGENCIES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION DEATH MASTER FILE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—In conjunction with the Commissioner of Social Security and in consultation with relevant stakeholders that have an interest in or responsibility for providing the data, and the States, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall establish a plan for improving the quality, accuracy, and timeliness of death data maintained by the Social Security Administration, including death information reported to the Commissioner under section 205(r) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(r))

# SSA OIG Death Audits

Audit	Number of Deceased Beneficiaries	Payments After Death (Millions)
<i>Match of Puerto Rico Death Information Against SSA Records (August 2019)</i>	149	\$11.5
<i>Match of Florida Death Information Against SSA Records (August 2019)</i>	474	\$35.9
<i>Match of Texas Death Information Against SSA Records (March 2019)</i>	336	\$24.0
<i>Match of Maryland and Michigan Death Information Against SSA Records (March 2019)</i>	145	\$16.9
<i>Match of Arkansas Death Information Against SSA Records (February 2019)</i>	112	\$3.8
<i>Match of Treasury Death Information Against SSA Records (August 2018)</i>	137	\$2.3
<i>Match of Washington Death Information Against SSA Records (May 2018)</i>	18	\$1.0
<i>Match of Connecticut Death Information Against SSA Records (December 2017)</i>	21	\$1.9
<i>Match of Massachusetts Death Information Against SSA Records (September 2017)</i>	41	\$3.6
<i>Payments to Individuals Listed as Deceased in Department of Veterans Affairs' Records (August 2017)</i>	746	\$37.7
<i>Match of California Death Information Against SSA Records (April 2017)</i>	33	\$5.8
<i>Office of Personnel Management Deaths Not in the SSA's Systems (August 2016)</i>	35	\$1.7
<i>Payments to Individuals with Deaths Reported in California from 1980 to 1987 (August 2014)</i>	18	\$3.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,265</b>	<b>\$149.8</b>

# Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016

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### Compliance Guides

- [Semi Annual Report to Congress Question and Answer Guide](#)
- [CIGIE QA Guide for IGEA Reporting and Posting Requirements](#)
- [Inspectors General Guide to Compliance Under the DATA Act \(February 2017\)](#)
- [Guide to the Inspector General Empowerment Act's Computer Matching Exemption \(June 2017\)](#)
- [Guide on the Inspector General Empowerment Act's Exemption to the Paperwork Reduction Act \(August 2017\)](#)
- [Administrative Leave Act: CIGIE Guidance \(September 2017\)](#)
- [Guidance for Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act Compliance Reviews \(July 2019\)](#)

### Inspection and Evaluation Organizations

### Audit Organizations

### Investigations Quality Standards & Other Operating Documents

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# Recap: Tools and Tips

- Follow-up Audits
- External Data
  - *IG Empowerment Act of 2016*
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  - Resources > Guides